

Best Possible Images

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

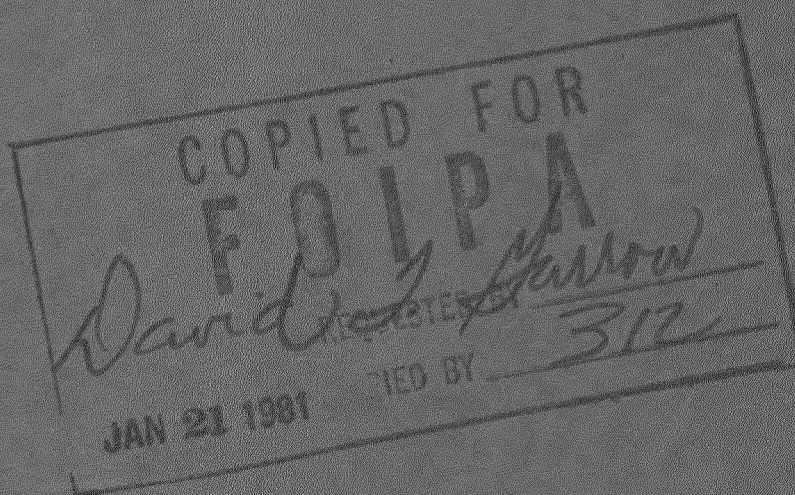
Screened by NARA (RF)  
02-08-2022 FOIA # 66728  
DOCID: 34467356

Declassification  
authority derived from  
FBI Automatic  
Declassification Guide,  
issued May 24, 2007

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

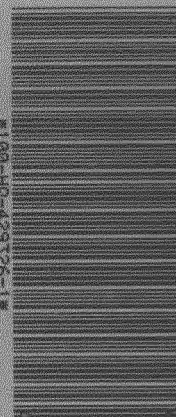
INVESTIGATION



USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

100-HQ-429326-1



SERIALS 1-

100 - HQ-429326

SECTION 1



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-3-106)

DATE: 8/29/58

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-10-AA)

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION  
OF MASS ORGANIZATIONS

CLASS. BY 367 VET/amy

DECLASS ON OADR

11-9-82

Reference is made to Bureau memo 7/28/58.

Set forth below is information concerning the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA), which is the only organization in which the CP has indicated any interest in infiltrating.

1. Name of organization: Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA), Montgomery, Alabama.

2. Extent of infiltration: NY 694-S reported to the New York Office on 5/22/58 that a former CP organizer from New Orleans (identified as HUNTER PITTS O'DELL) was described by JAMES EDWARD JACKSON, CP national committeeman, as having close association with Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., President of the MIA, which is the principal Negro mass organization at Montgomery, Alabama. Investigation, however, has not shown that O'DELL has attended any CP meetings at Montgomery, and [redacted] who has been active in the MIA, has reported that KING has had very little contact with O'DELL. (S)

[redacted] advised on 7/30/58 that at a CP meeting in Montgomery 7/27/58, members were instructed to join the MIA. These instructions came from MARY BABER KNOX, who came down from Birmingham, Alabama to conduct the monthly meeting of 7/27/58. Information has not been received to show that [redacted] have followed instructions by affiliating with the MIA, but the matter will be followed closely. (S)

3. CP members who are members of MIA: As pointed out above, [redacted] are not known to have joined the MIA but the matter will be followed with [redacted]

2 - Bureau (REGISTERED) REC- 85  
2 - Mobile  
JTB:vlw

MCT - 15

429326 - 1  
NOT RECORDED  
87 SEP 17 1958

51 SEP 24 1958

ENTRIES ON ORIGINAL

EX - 132

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

SECRET

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF  
DATE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-16-SK/PL 12/4/90  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 12/4/90

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF  
DATE 11/2/82  
CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED  
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DPC)  
DATE 2-13-83  
ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-3-106-130



MO 100-10-AA

4. Informant coverage of MIA activity: Informant coverage of the MIA has in the past been furnished by [redacted] who has stated that HUNTER PITTS O'DELL, former CP organizer at New Orleans and who now resides at Montgomery, has had limited contact with leaders of the MIA and is not known to have any influence or control of MIA policy. (S)

In the event that the CP members at Montgomery decide to join the MIA, [redacted] will provide coverage of the CP infiltration within that group. (S)

5. A case has not been opened on the MIA and it is not felt that a separate investigative file should be opened on this group. [redacted] It is noted that any specific steps taken by the CP to infiltrate the MIA will be reported on by [redacted] The Mobile Office has in the past and will continue to follow the activities of the MIA under the caption "Racial Situation, Montgomery, Alabama", Bufile 100-135-61. As the CP has not exercised any control over the MIA and to date has not joined this group, it is not felt that there is sufficient basis for opening a separate file concerning Cominfil of MIA. (S)(u)

This office will remain alert for further developments concerning this group in order to be aware if any progress is made by the CP resulting in infiltration of the MIA or other mass organizations in the Mobile area.



SAC, Mobile

Mr. O'Connor  
 3-26-59  
 APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
 ADVISED BY ROUTING  
 SLIP(S) OF  
 DATE

Director, FBI (100-429326)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~SECRET~~

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
 MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - C

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 GLEK/HK  
 REASON: FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
 DATE OF REVIEW 12/4/80

Reurlet 8-29-58 captioned "Communist Infiltration of Mass Organizations" and New York letter to the Bureau dated 2-10-59 captioned "CP, USA, Negro Question, IS-C," a copy of which was furnished your office.

Re New York letter points out that Stanley Levison and his brother, Roy Levison, who have been identified as secret financial donors to the reserve fund for the Communist Party, USA, are in close contact with and obviously very friendly with Reverend Martin Luther King.

In view of the above, the Bureau desires that you re-evaluate the conclusion set forth in re Mobile letter that there is no substantial information indicating communist infiltration of the Montgomery Improvement Association. You should promptly contact [redacted] in an effort to determine how much control the Levisons are exerting over King and whether there is information indicating that they have been furnishing him financial assistance, which could be considered placing King in an obligatory status in so far as the Levisons are concerned. Other sources who may be in a position to furnish information concerning this matter should likewise be contacted. Sulet the results of your investigation no later than 4-24-59, together with your recommendations whether additional investigation is warranted pursuant to Section 87E of the Manual of Instructions. (u)

1 - 100-3-106 (Cominfil Mass Organizations)

JOC:eeb

(5)

MAILED 8  
 MAR 26 1959  
 COMM-FBI

REC-29

100-429326-

24 MAR 27 1959

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
 AND FIELD OFFICES  
 ADVISED BY ROUTING  
 SLIP(S) OF  
 DATE

AMENDED NAT/MA  
 4/24/59  
 SECRET

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED  
 BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)  
 DATE: 7-13-83

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-3-106-



APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) **MEMO**  
DATE 12/14/80

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-429326)

DATE: 4/13/59

FROM : *RB* SAC, Mobile (100-1483)CLASS. BY 367 VRT/ang

UNCLASS ON

11-9-82

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT:

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
IS - C

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-1  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 12/14/80

*N.Y.* Bureau letter to Mobile 3/26/59 pointed out that according to information developed by New York, STANLEY LEVISON and his brother, ROY LEVISON, who have been identified as secret donors to the reserve fund for the CP, USA, are in close contact and obviously friendly with Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, head of the MIA, Negro organization, at Montgomery, Ala. The Bureau instructed that investigation be made in effort to determine how much control the LEVISONs are exerting over KING and whether there is information indicating that they have been furnishing him financial assistance, which could be considered placing KING in an obligatory status insofar as the LEVISONs are concerned. Bureau requested that results of investigation be submitted the Bureau by letter no later than 4/24/59, together with recommendations from Mobile whether additional investigation is warranted of MIA. *(S)*

*HEAD OF MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION*  
*(S)* [redacted] contacted 3/31/59, has no information in this regard. It should be added that this informant, [redacted]

*(S)* [redacted]  
[It is clear that the questions which need answering -- particularly the question of evaluating the degree of influence of the LEVISONs on KING -- can only be answered by a source of information who is either very close to KING or to the LEVISONs, preferably KING.] Mobile has no such source. The question has been raised previously with the Bureau in Mobile letter 8/29/58 entitled RACIAL SITUATION, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, Bufile 100-135-61, as to the advisability of developing a source within the leadership of MIA, and the Bureau advised by letter 9/5/58 that such a procedure would be improper, because at that time there was no substantial allegation of Communist or other subversive influence in the MIA. [The question was raised at that

- ② - Bureau (RM)
  - 2 - Atlanta (RM)
  - 2 - New York (RM)
  - 2 - Mobile
- WED-egp  
(8)

REC-105

APR 16 1959

~~SECRET~~~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED  
DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)  
DATE: 7-13-83

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE



MO 100-1483

time because [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] who, in addition to furnishing data concerning Communist matters at Montgomery, Ala., had been volunteering information concerning the MIA. (S)

The only investigation which can be conducted other than the development of well-placed sources close to the top leadership in MIA, and which can be reasonably expected to produce pertinent and useful data, would be development of full information concerning the finances of the MIA, and of Reverend KING. In this connection the following has been done:

Sergeant K. W. JONES, Detective, Montgomery Police Department, advised on 3/31/59 that during the bus boycott in Montgomery by the MIA in 1956, he attempted to develop information concerning these matters. He found a personal checking account for Reverend KING at the First National Bank, Montgomery, Ala., and followed that account closely for several months. He said that no information of any value was received through this source because KING deposited in this account only his salary from his church, and checked out only his regular, ordinary personal disbursements for rent, gas, lights, and the like. He said the account varied in its balance from approximately \$400 to \$25.

Sergeant JONES said that he went to Atlanta, Ga., on learning that the MIA had its account at the Citizens Trust Company there. He found that the Citizens Trust Company is owned by Negroes, and has only Negro customers. He tried to get authorities in Atlanta to develop information from this account, but entirely without success. He recalled that the County Solicitor of Fulton County, Georgia (covering Atlanta), told him that Reverend KING's father, Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, SR., controls a block vote of some 40,000 Negroes in Atlanta, and that this vote was so considerable that he, the solicitor, would do nothing at all to offend Reverend KING, either Senior or Junior. Sergeant JONES said that Assistant Attorney General of the State of Georgia did try to get information concerning the MIA account from the Citizens Trust Company, but that the officials of the bank refused to furnish any information except on subpoena. G-A.

Sergeant JONES said that late in 1956 the MIA opened another account, at the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York City.

~~SECRET~~



~~SECRET~~

As he recalled, this account was opened with a deposit of \$100,000.00. Sergeant JONES said that no additional information was obtained from this account. He said that he did not believe that the matter was further investigated.

Sergeant JONES indicated that the Montgomery Police Department conducted very exhaustive inquiries concerning the MIA, always alert for, and seeking any information which could connect the MIA with any subversive organization. He said, however, that although some sources with limited access to information concerning the MIA were developed, that no pertinent subversive data was ever developed.

It should be pointed out that the Montgomery Police Department, under the direction of Police Commissioner CLYDE SELLERS, a member of the Montgomery County Citizens Council, and very strong advocate of racial segregation and white supremacy, would logically leave no effort unspent to develop any kind of unfavorable information about Reverend KING or about the MIA. It might also be pointed out that the Detective Squad of the Montgomery Police Department, under the direction of Captain EDWARD P. BROWN, NA, is considered an effective and efficient group, and that they demonstrated their efficiency very dramatically in solving the infamous church bombings in Montgomery in 1957.

The development of the desired information, therefore, relating to anything of an "inside" nature concerning the MIA and its leadership, can be expected to be a considerable undertaking. It can be accomplished, but only by development of well-placed sources of information. It is paramount, also, considering the extremely delicate nature of such a matter, that the source be absolutely discreet and completely trustworthy.

Of course, no such undertaking will be initiated unless the Bureau so directs. In the absence of [redacted] from the Montgomery scene, the source would of complete necessity be a Negro, and no Montgomery Negro could be safely asked at this time for information about Reverend KING or the working of the MIA, or its policies, or its finances. Without first establishing a completely loyal-to-the Bureau attitude in the person to be questioned, and without first establishing that the person has in the highest degree those attributes of a security informant, there would be no assurance that such a person would

ccs  
(u)

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

~~SECRET~~



MO 100-1483

~~SECRET~~

not readily advise Reverend KING that the inquiry had been made ~~(S)~~ (u)

MEMBER-MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

At the time of his departure from Montgomery, [redacted] said that he believed that [redacted] would probably have the reasonable and intelligent attitude necessary to understand the specific interest that the Bureau would have in information which he might possess [redacted]

A LA.

[redacted] - that is, a sufficiently discerning mind to understand that the Bureau is not interested in the MIA as such, but only in such information as might affect the security of the United States and the peace of the community. ~~(S)~~

#### Request of the Bureau

In view of the newly developed information reflecting possible Communist influence on the President of MIA, the Bureau is respectfully requested to advise whether or not Mobile should undertake to develop background information concerning [redacted] with a view to eventually developing him as a confidential source of information, it being understood that prevailing Bureau instructions will be fully complied with in this process. ~~(S)~~

The following other investigation is requested by the indicated offices:

#### Atlanta

Advise the Bureau whether or not the Atlanta Office has, or can develop, a source of information in the Citizens Trust Company, Atlanta, Ga., who could furnish information concerning the finances of the Montgomery Improvement Association, and if so, request the authority of the Bureau to contact or develop this source for that purpose.

#### New York

Advise the Bureau whether or not the New York Office has, or can develop, a source of information in the Chase Manhattan Bank, New York City, who could furnish information from the MIA account at that bank; and if so, request Bureau authority to contact or develop that source for that purpose.

Through established sources, examine cancelled checks in the checking accounts of STANLEY and ROY LEVISON, to ascertain

~~SECRET~~



MO 100-1483

~~SECRET~~

whether any checks have been made out to, or endorsed by,  
Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., or Reverend S. S. SEAY,  
Executive Secretary of the Montgomery Improvement Association.

Offices with leads regard this inquiry as being of  
the utmost delicacy, and be accordingly guided.

ALA.

~~SECRET~~



SAC, Mobile (100-1483)

5-1-59

Director, FBI (100-429326) -3

REC- 44

~~SECRET~~

mt

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED  
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)  
DATE: 7-13-83

Reurlet 4-13-59 requesting Bureau authority to develop background information concerning [redacted] with the purpose of developing him as a source within the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA). (S)

Authority is granted to conduct background investigation concerning [redacted] through utilization of public source material and confidential sources only. Handle this matter promptly and furnish the Bureau with sufficient identifying data concerning [redacted] so that a proper check of Bureau indices might be made. Make no effort toward contacting this individual until decision in this regard has been made by the Bureau. (S)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

The MIA is a Negro organization headed by Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., which organization conducted the successful boycott of buses by Negroes in Montgomery and has been most active on behalf of Negro rights in that area. [We have received information that Stanley D. Levison, a heavy contributor to the Communist Party (CP) secret reserve fund, has been in close contact and is obviously friendly with King. Our investigation is aimed at determining whether Levison and the CP are asserting pressure and influence over King. Mobile desires to consider developing [redacted] as a source of information within the MIA so that a determination can be made regarding Levison and his influence.] (S)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY SLIP

SLIP (S) OF

DATE

JOC:ebc

(4)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

62 MAY 6 1959

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT ☐

MAILED 27  
MAY - 1 1959  
COMM-FBI

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP/1GSK/NE 12/4/88  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 12/4/96

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

~~SECRET~~

NW 2-1980



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-429326)

DATE: 4/27/59

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-137838)

SUBJECT: COMINFIL OF THE MONTGOMERY  
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
IS-C

Re Mobile letter, dated 4/13/59.

On 4/23/59, EDWARD T. MC GOVERN, Chase Manhattan Bank, 18 Pine St., NYC (conceal) advised SA JAMES E. TIERNEY that his bank has no record that the Montgomery Improvement Association or MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. has or had opened an account with his bank.

The NY case files of STANLEY and ROY LEVISON are being reviewed in an effort to ascertain the identity of the banks in which they have their accounts.

When the banks are identified, arrangements will be made with the banks involved to monitor their accounts.

Checks issued on a monthly basis will be reviewed in order to ascertain whether any checks have been made or endorsed by captioned organization, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. or the Reverend S.S. SEAY, Executive Secretary of the Montgomery Improvement Association.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/3/80 BY SP-1 GSK/ML

- cc 1759
- 2 - Bureau (100-429326) (RM)
  - 2 - Mobile (100-1483) (RM)
  - 1 - New York (100-137838)

JET:rma  
(5)

REC-75

EX-109

100-429326-4  
12 APR 28 1959

62 MAY 1 1959



601 XH

SAC, Atlanta (100-5866)

May 4, 1959

REC-95

Director, FBI (100-429326)-5

**COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C**

Reurairtel 4-24-59.

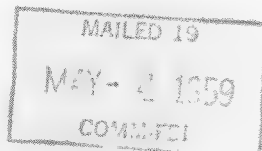
A review of reairtel fails to indicate that specific pertinent information could be developed by a contact of a representative of the Citizens Trust Company. The Bureau further believes that there is a good chance of embarrassment to the Bureau if such a contact was further pursued. No further action in this regard is desired at this time.

1 - Mobile (100-1483)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/3/80 BY SP-1/GSK/ncw

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JOC:bba  
(5)



50 MAY 7 1959

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

*DNK*  
*Jr*



FBI

Date: 4/24/59

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or method of mailing)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/1/80 BY SP/CEK/LL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-429326)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-5866)

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
IS - C

Re Mobile letter dated 4/15/59, which requested that the Atlanta Office advise the Bureau as to the possibilities of developing a Source of Information in the Citizens Trust Company, Atlanta, Ga., who would be in a position to furnish financial information regarding the Montgomery Improvement Association, (MIA).

Referenced Mobile letter sets forth that during the initial formation of the MIA, Alabama State authorities had attempted through the Solicitor's Office, Fulton County, Atlanta, Ga., to develop financial information regarding this organization at the Citizens Trust Company and further that the Assistant Attorney General of the State of Georgia had attempted to obtain the desired data from the MIA account, but that the officials of the Bank refused to furnish any information except only an subpoena.

For the Bureau's and Mobile's information, it should be noted that the Citizens Trust Company is a Bank owned and operated by Mr. L. D. MILTON, and that this institution also operates a branch of the Bank in West End, Atlanta, which is managed by one Mr. W. H. HOUSTON. It is to be noted that all of the officials and employees of this institution are of the Negro race. It is considered that the largest majority of the banking business likewise is with colored people. It is known that there are some white depositors utilizing these facilities and Mr. MILTON and HOUSTON, both have been of assistance in making available financial data on a confidential basis regarding two of these white depositors who have a subversive background.

3 - Bureau (100-429326)

1 - Mobile (100-1483) (Info)

1 - New York (Info)

1 - Atlanta (100-5866)

APM:abb

Approved: (6)

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M \_\_\_\_\_

DATA SEC.

F B I

Date: 4/24/59

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

AT 100-5866

Mr. MILTON has in the past cooperated on other investigative matters and is considered one of the leading citizens in the City of Atlanta in his community. He has on many occasions expressed himself as being anti-Communist and a firm believer in our present capitalistic form of Government and economics.

In regard to obtaining information regarding the Montgomery Improvement Association, the Atlanta Office has no reason to believe that because of the character of this organization and its avowed purpose that Mr. MILTON will hesitate about furnishing information except upon the issuance of subpoena as he has during the past to both State and County authorities.

Likewise, if such information is made available even without the issuance of a subpoena, it is considered that Mr. MILTON would casually discuss with Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, SR., the interest of this agency in the finances of that organization who in turn would undoubtedly in turn relay this information to the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., of Montgomery, Ala.

It is pointed out that if the Atlanta Office were authorized to confidentially advise Mr. L. D. MILTON that the purpose of instant inquiry into the finances of the MIA was to determine whether any possible subversive organizations had been contributing or supporting the MIA financially, that he would undoubtedly cooperate in this matter; however, without furnishing MILTON some information along these lines, it is considered he would demand a subpoena for the Bank records in this regard.

- 2 -

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge



FBI

Date: 4/24/59

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_ AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

AT 100-5866

It is noted that Mr. MILTON in the past has expressed himself to an Agent of the Atlanta Office on the subject of segregation and Mr. MILTON's comments in this regard are as follows: He was for the complete removal of racial segregation and he differentiated in this regard between segregation and integration, pointing out that for the past 25 or 30 years he has owned and operated this bank and throughout that period of time he has endeavored to integrate his Negro employees for better functioning and operating of his bank, however, this has been impossible and he has accomplished this only to a degree. He pointed out that he did not feel, however, that the races could be completely integrated.

It is further pointed out to the Bureau that in view of previous attempts to obtain this desired information from the Citizens Trust Company that Mr. MILTON might in this instance construe the FBI's interest in the NIA finances as one of cooperation with other State and local law enforcement agencies in an effort to obtain the desired information and would for this reason require a subpoena for the desired financial data.

Further for the Bureau's information, the Atlanta Office has worked numerous Federal Reserve Act cases in the Citizens Trust Company and in these instances Mr. MILTON and Mr. ROBERTSON have both cooperated. On another occasion, an informant furnished specific information as to a proposed Bank Robbery of the Citizens Trust Company of Georgia and Mr. MILTON cooperated with the Atlanta Office completely.

It is believed that if the Atlanta Office will be authorized by the Bureau to inform Mr. MILTON of possible Communist

- 3 -

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date 4/24/59

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

AT 100-3866

influence and attempts to infiltrate the MIA and point out to him the Bureau's specific interest in the MIA as being a determination of the extent of such Communist assistance that Mr. MILTON would more logically cooperate in making the desired financial data available.

This matter is being RUC'd in the Atlanta Division pending receipt of specific Bureau instructions and authority to attempt to develop source regarding the MIA.

RUC.

- 4 -

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent: \_\_\_\_\_ M Per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge



- Mr. O'Connor

SAC, Mobile (100-1483)

June 5, 1959

REC-69  
Director, FBI (100-429326) - 6~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reurlet dated May 22, 1959.

Based upon the results of indices checks as instructed by relet of several offices you should promptly submit your recommendations whether it appears feasible to consider contacting [redacted] in an effort to develop this individual as a source concerning captioned matter. Upon receipt of this data the Bureau will make a prompt appraisal of the entire situation and render a decision concerning contact of [redacted] e

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED  
DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)  
7-13-83

FILE # 367 VRT/amg  
DECLASS ON

11-9-82

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-16 SK/ndg 12/3/80  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 12/3/90

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

MAILED 31

JUN 5 1959

COMM-FBI

JOC:d1h

(4)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

67 JUN 10 1959

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-429326)

DATE: 5/22/59

FROM : SAC, Mobile (100-1483)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT:

DATE 12/3/80 BY SP.1GSK/ML

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
 ① MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Re Bureau letter to Mobile 5/1/59.

Pursuant to request in reBulet, the following  
 information pertaining to [redacted] is set forth.

All information set forth hereinafter was obtained  
 from either (A) [redacted]

or  
 (B) records of Local Selective Service Board #72, made avail-  
 able by Clerk NETTIE V. BOLAND, 5/8/59, at Montgomery.  
 Information set forth hereinafter will be attributed to these  
 sources by letter designation.

BIRTH DATA

[redacted]

EDUCATION

[redacted]

EMPLOYMENT

[redacted]

② - Bureau (RM)  
 2 - Cleveland (RM)  
 2 - Louisville (RM)  
 2 - Memphis (RM)  
 2 - Mobile  
 WED:vlw  
 (10)

REC-4

8 MAY 27 1959

INT. SEC.



FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

MO 100-1483

[Redacted]

MARITAL STATUS

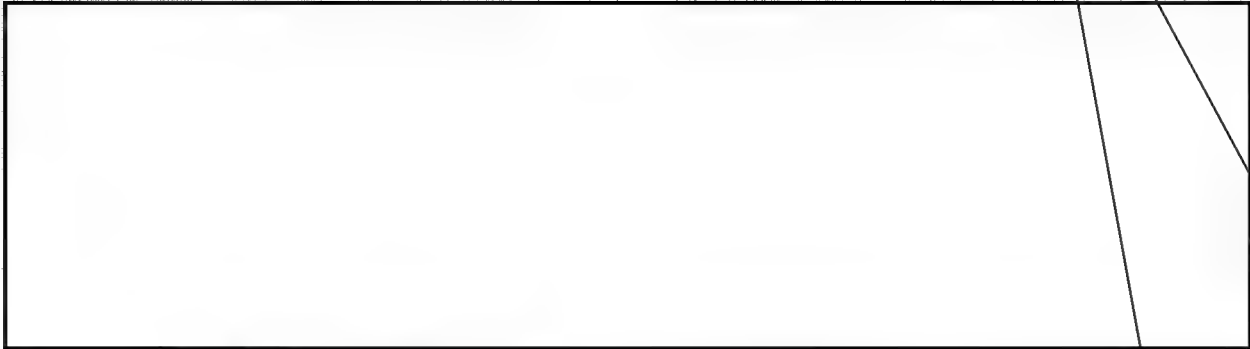
[Redacted]

SELECTIVE SERVICE RECORD

[Redacted]

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

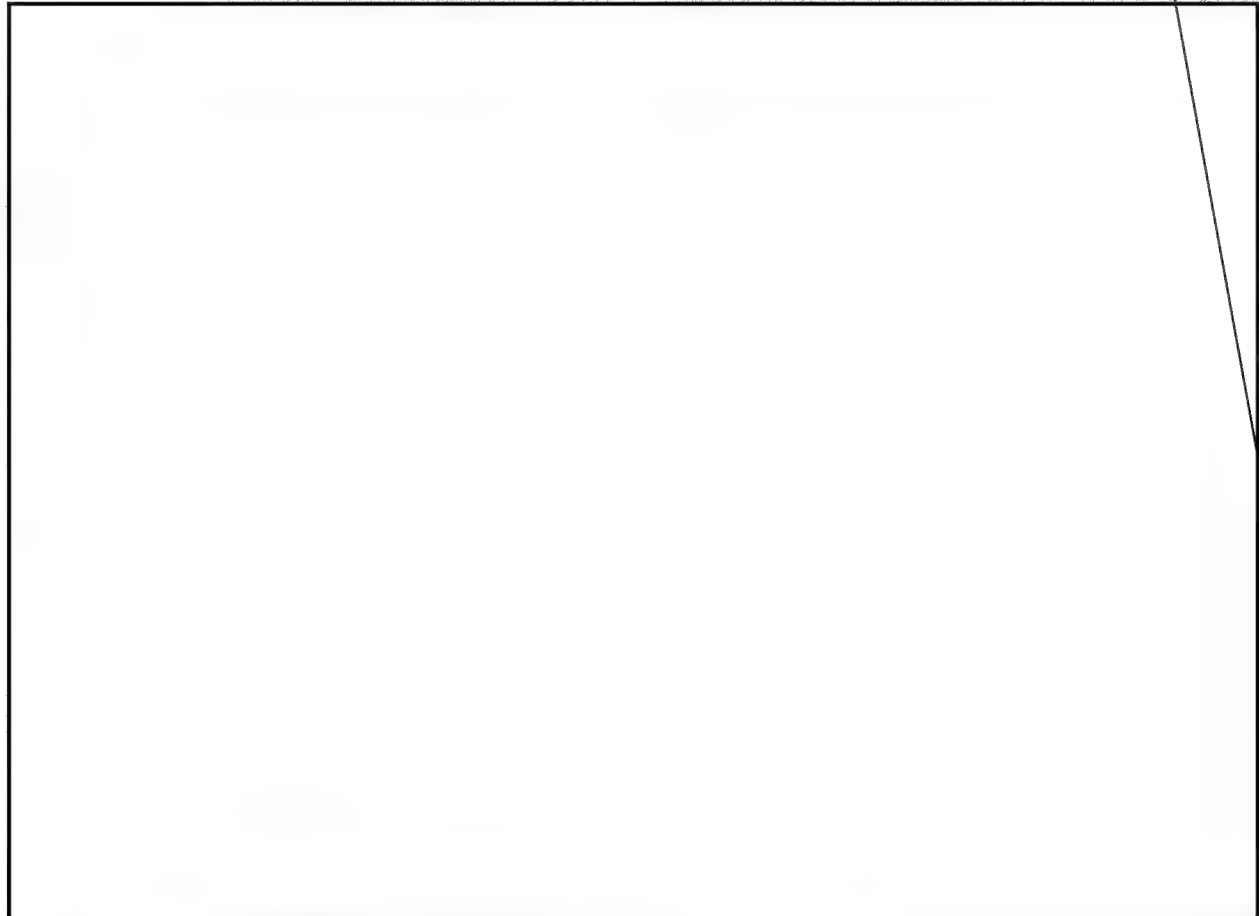
MO 100-1483



MILITARY SERVICE

None

CRIMINAL RECORD





MO 100-1483

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTIONName  
AddressRace  
Sex  
DOB  
Height  
Weight  
Build  
Hair  
Eyes  
Complexion  
Marital statusImmediate  
relatives

[redacted], named above, is a reliable and discreet source of information of this office. Similarly, [redacted], named above, has proved discreet and reliable in all contacts by this office.

Copies of this letter are being furnished to Cleveland, Louisville, and Memphis, with the request that these offices check indices and, where it can be done through reliable confidential sources, ascertain the reputation of [redacted]

MO 100-1483

Coverage of these leads will be delayed for a period of one week to enable the Bureau to advise if this investigation not desired by these offices.

Bureau is respectfully requested to so advise these offices if this investigation not required.



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-429326)

DATE: 6/5/59

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-137835)

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE MONTGOMERY  
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
IS-C

Re Mobile let 4/13/59 and NY let 4/27/59.

On 4/30/59, and 5/28/59, Miss ROSALIE AIMP, Chief Clerk, Manufacturers Trust Co., 43rd St. and 5th Ave., NYC (conceal), made available the cancelled checks for the months of April and May, 1959, respectively, in the accounts of STANLEY D. LEVISON, 10 East 39th St., NYC, and the following corporations with which he is affiliated:

Park Management Co.  
Atlantic Coast Realty Corp.

A review of these checks reflected that none were made to, or endorsed by MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., or the Reverend S.B. SEAY, Executive Secretary, Montgomery Improvement Association.

On 4/30/59 and 5/28/59, Mr. HOGAN CAMP, Chemical Bank Exchange Bank, 86th St., and York Ave., NYC (conceal), made available the cancelled checks for the months of April and May, 1959, respectively, in the joint account of PEARL and ROY BRUNETT (LEVISON), 529 East 85th St., NYC.

A review of these checks reflected that none were made to or endorsed by KING or SEAY.

A review of the NY files of STANLEY and ROY LEVISON reflect that a periodic monitoring of their cancelled checks at the above two banks has failed to reflect that any of these checks were made to or endorsed by either KING or SEAY.

STANLEY LEVISON's account has been monitored periodically since approximately the middle of the year 1953.

ROY LEVISON's account has been monitored periodically since approximately the latter part of 1953.

- ② - Bureau (100-429326) (RM)  
1 - Mobile (100-14883) (RM)  
1 - New York (100-137835)

JET:qjh

57 JUN 15 1959

REC-47

100-429326-7  
12 JUN 10 1959

NY 100-137838

In addition the bank accounts of the corporations or companies with which the LEVISON's have been affiliated, have been monitored periodically during the course of the investigations of STANLEY and ROY LEVISON, and a review of their cancelled checks fails to reflect that any of the checks were made to or endorsed by KING or SEAY.

Arrangements have been made with the above banks to review the cancelled checks of STANLEY and ROY LEVISON, the Park Management Company, and the Atlantic Coast Realty Corporation for the month of June, 1959.

The results of the review of these checks will be furnished to the Bureau and Mobile upon completion of this review.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-429326)

DATE: July 1, 1959

FROM : SAC, CLEVELAND (100-24106)

SUBJECT:

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF  
THE MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT  
ASSOCIATION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-1 GSK/ndc 12/3/88  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 12/3/90

CLASS. BY 367 URT-Cmg

Re Mobile letter to Bureau, 5-22-59. UNCLASS ON 11-9-82

The following investigation was conducted at Cleveland, Ohio:

On June 8, 1959, Mr. WALTER BOLL, Cleveland Retail Credit Men's Company, Cleveland, Ohio, advised SE LOUIS V. SEEKINS that [redacted] had no credit record with his company.

On June 4, 5 and 18, 1959, the Cleveland Police Department's Bureau of Special Investigations, Identification Bureau, and Record Room, respectively, advised SE LOUIS V. SEEKINS that there was no record for [redacted].

The following confidential informants who are familiar with some phases of Communist Party and related subversive activities in the Cleveland Division were contacted with negative results:

SOURCE	DATE	AGENT CONTACTING
[redacted]	6-9-59	SA ALFRED L. ANDERSON
[redacted]	6-12-59	"
[redacted]	6-4-59	"
[redacted]	6-18-59	"
[redacted]	6-18-59	"

2 - Bureau (RM)  
2 - Mobile (100-1483) REC-9  
1 - Cleveland  
JSP: tnr  
(5)

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED  
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) 7-12-83

12 JUL 6 1959

CONFIDENTIAL



CV 100-24106

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~SOURCEDATEAGENT CONTACTING

6-11-59

SA EDWIN B. BIRNEY

6-10-59

"

6-6-59

"

6-9-59

"

6-10-59

"

CV 100-24106

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CV 100-24106

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

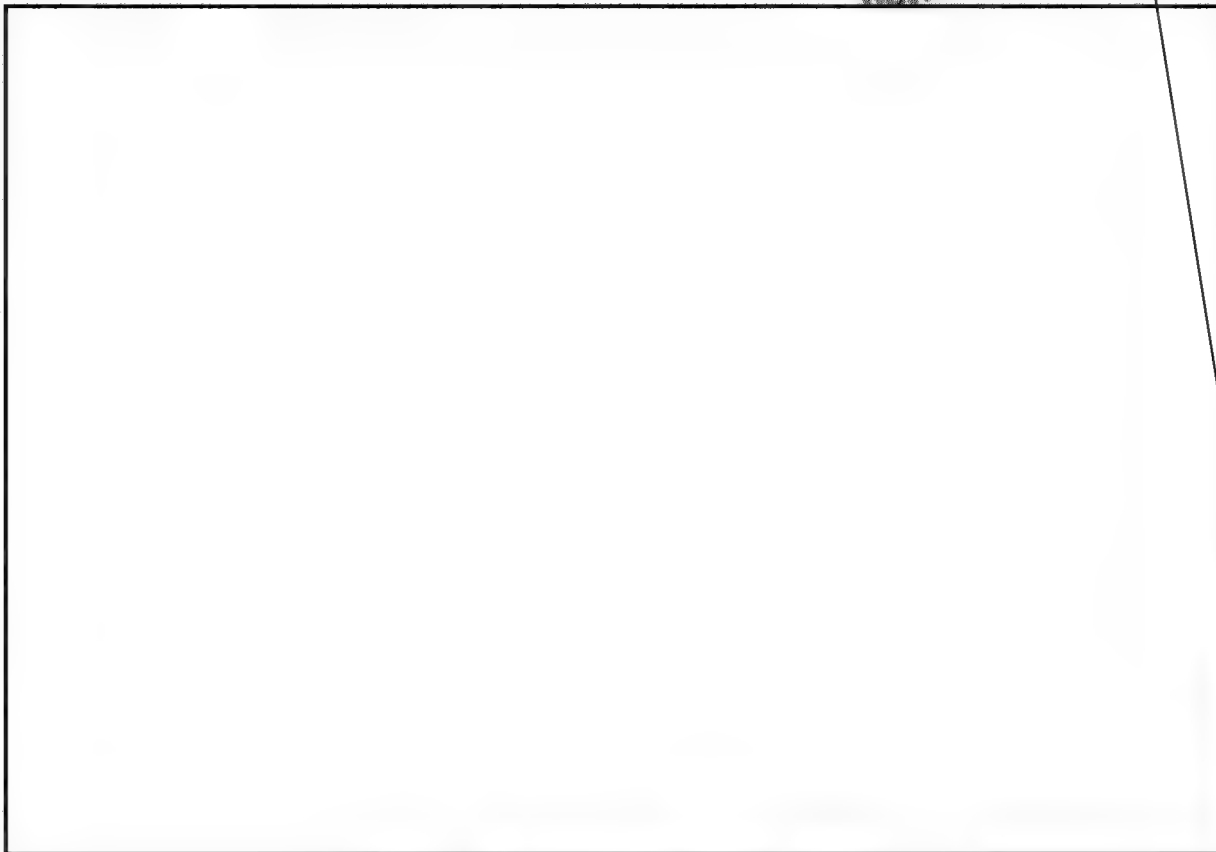
FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



CV 100-24106

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Cleveland Office indices negative regarding

[Redacted]

RUC.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FBI

DATE: 4 JUN 1983

*Boon-Phu-er*  
*Line*

TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING IN

PLAIN 362 *VER/088*

(PLAIN TEXT OF CODE)

CLASS OF  
1972 TDIT  
10-11-81

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED  
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)

DATE 7-13-83  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

*MONTGOMERY* *IMPROVE ME*

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-69)

*ASSOCIATION*

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-80641)

SUBJECT: CP, USA - ORGANIZATION

IS-C. *12/4/80*

Class. REASON-FCIM 11-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW *12/4/80*

CARE MUST BE UTILIZED IN HANDLING AND REPORTING  
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SINCE ITS VERY NATURE TENDS TO IDENTIFY  
A SENSITIVE AND HIGHLY PLACED INFORMANT.

- 1 - Bureau (100-3-69) (RM)
- 1 - Chicago (INFO) (RM)
- 1 - NY (100-23825) (CP, USA - STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY)
- 1 - NY (100-1696) (BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR) (416)
- 1 - NY (100-105078) (ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-16785) (HY LUMER) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-16785) (JAMES J. JACKSON, JR.) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-16065) (JACK STACHEL) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-91330) (HUNTER PITTS O'DELL) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-16021) (ARNOLD JOHNSON) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-48033) (IRVING POTASH) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-56579) (PHIL BART) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-8057) (EUGENE DENNIS) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-97167) (POLITICAL AFFAIRS) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-79717) (CP, USA - POLITICAL ACTIVITIES) (415)
- 1 - NY (100-80641) (415)

JAC:KMI  
(19)

10 JUN 11 1983

INT. SEC.

CENTRAL RECORDS

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-3-69-64

NY 100-20641

On 6/2/59, [REDACTED] advised that the regularly scheduled meeting of the Resident NSC, CP, USA, and invited guests was held in the Third Floor Board Room, CP Headquarters, NYC, on that date. *q*

EUGENE DENNIS was Chairman and among those present with DENNIS were:

BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR.  
 WILLIAM GUNLEY FLYNN  
 NY LUMEN  
 JAMES J. JACKSON, JR.  
 ALON STACHEL  
 HUNTER PITTS O'DELL

IRVING POTASH, and  
 PHIL BART.

The meeting opened with a discussion of an unsigned review of MARTIN LUTHER KING'S book. The review was one which had apparently been submitted for publication in "Political Affairs." JAMES JACKSON pointed out that the review was incomplete in its treatment of the book and has no place in a Party publication. He said that if such an article is printed it would be a tremendous mistake and would do a great deal of damage to Party work and prestige. FLYNN, LUMEN, and JACKSON were in agreement on this point. LUMEN noted that the review was a "one-sided approach" and JACKSON commented that he felt that the review is not Marxist in nature and, therefore, should not be published in a Marxist publication. *q*

HUNTER PITTS O'DELL described KING'S book as being of value in that its main feature dealt with the Montgomery Bus Boycott. He noted, however, that the chapter "On His Philosophy" was unfortunate and presumptuous because it did not strengthen the book or furnish an adequate contribution to the Negro People's Movement. *q*



EDD DAVIS said that with respect to KING'S activities on behalf of the Negro race, the Party has to participate, support, influence, sacrifice for, and help KING reach his objectives in every way possible. *✓*

HUNTER PETER O'DELL and IRVING POTASH were of the opinion that a more extended review of KING'S book should be written by JAMES JACKSON. The discussion on this point concluded with a proposal by JAMES JACKSON that the anonymous review submitted for "Political Affairs" not be published and that further discussion be held on "true Negro issues." *✓*

IRVING POTASH next gave a report on his recent trip to Chicago. He described it as valuable because it gave him the opportunity to come "face to face with the workers." During his discussion, POTASH mentioned only one union, this being the Packing House Workers, however, due to his frequent use of the blackboard, the informant was unable to determine whether his subsequent reference to a union or his discussion concerning Party clubs was related to the Packing House Workers' Union. POTASH mentioned that there was good distribution of "The Worker" and of other Party literature on the club level. He remarked that in general all clubs were "good functioning clubs." He stated that he had observed that there was a need for the Party to "advance a line of action" for both the workers and "the union", and that an effort should also be made to avoid an "open laceration" between the two. According to POTASH "the workers" are mad and confused about many things, such as union leadership, grievances, and the theory of inflation. He pointed out that there was collaboration between Negro and white workers and that some of the Negro leaders are active in the community. *✓*

The next point on the agenda was concerned with the resolution for the forthcoming National Convention. ~~BERNIN~~ said that among the topics to be included in this resolution are the following: X

1. A section dealing with the national and international situation and the struggle for peace.
  2. Monopoly and American Imperialism and the dangers they create.
  3. The National Liberation Movement.
  4. The political situation in the country and the growth of political reaction.
  5. Civil liberties.
  6. The necessity of a nation-wide democratic front for peace.
  7. Unity of struggle within the Negro Labor Alliance with emphasis on the role of the left.
  8. The 1960 elections in terms of building a democratic alliance and approaching concretely the necessity of defeating the Dixiecrats, and the election of peace candidates Negroes, and trade unionists.
  9. A special section on the ~~NAACP~~ lynching case.
  10. A section dealing with the ~~various~~ role of the Party and some of the important tasks on the ideological front.
- X

NW 100-38341

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
BOB DAVIS said that he felt the NEC should see to it that the National Convention projects something that will inspire the re-establishment of "The Daily Worker" ✓

ELIZABETH GURLEY BLYNN emphasized the fact that inner-Party problems should not appear in the resolution. She recommended that the resolution be written in "popular language" rather than Party terminology. ✓

DENNIS indicated that the resolution should include such perspectives as ending the cold war, ending JIN CROW and achieving peaceful co-existence. DENNIS moved for the approval of the outline of the resolution and there was apparently no objection. ✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-429326)

DATE: 7/7/59

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-137838)

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
IS - C

ReNYlet dated 6/5/59.

On 6/30/59, MISS ROSALIE ALT, Chief Clerk, Manufacturers Trust Co., 43rd St. and 5th Ave., NYC, (conceal) made available the cancelled checks for the month of June, 1959, in the accounts of STANLEY D. LEVISON, 6 East 39th St., NYC, and the following corporations with which he is affiliated: PARK MANAGEMENT CO. & ATLANTIC COAST REALTY CORP.

A review of these checks reflected that none were made to, or endorsed by MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., or the REVEREND S.S. SEAY, Executive Secretary, Montgomery Improvement Association.

On 6/30/59, MR. HOGANCAMP, Chemical Corn Exchange Bank, 86th St. and York Ave., NYC, (conceal) made available the cancelled checks for the month of June, 1959, in the joint account of PEARL and ROY BENNETT (LEVISON), 529 E. 85th St., NYC.

A review of these checks reflected that none were made to, or endorsed by KING or SEAY.

Unless the Mobile office makes a request to the contrary, the NYO is discontinuing the monitoring of the above accounts.

Inasmuch as there is no further investigation to be conducted by the NYO, this case is being RUC'ed.

- 2 - Bureau (100-429326) (RM)
- 1 - Mobile (100-1483) (RM)
- 1 - New York (100-137838)

REC-99

100-429326-9

JET:mep  
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

15 JUL 8 1959

DATE 12/3/80 BY SP166K/ML

JUL 10 1959

INT-10

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

SAC, Mobile (100-1483)

July 21, 1959

REC- 86

Director, FBI (100-429326) - 1

EX-132

~~SECRET~~

CLASS. ON

11-9-82

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

CLASS. &amp; EXT. BY SP-1 GSK/nk 12/3/80

REASON FOR EXT. 2.4.2 2

DATE OF REVIEW 12/3/90

Reurlet 7/9/59.

The Bureau has made a careful and thorough analysis of the situation involving the close friendship of Stanley D. Levison with Reverend Martin Luther King and the efforts of your office to develop a source close to King who may be able to furnish the Bureau with the extent of Levison's influence over this individual. The Bureau believes that the opportunity for acute embarrassment outweighs the necessity for further consideration of contacting [redacted]. Therefore, no further action in this regard is desired or contemplated, and you should remain alert to this situation and furnish the Bureau under instant caption with additional information which may come to your attention concerning communist infiltration into the Montgomery Improvement Association. (C)

As the Bureau desires at this time no further active investigation concerning captioned matter, your case should be closed.

NOTE ON YELLOW: Stanley D. Levison, a heavy contributor to the Communist Party secret reserve fund, has been very friendly with and obviously a close associate of Reverend Martin Luther King, who heads captioned organization. It was our original desire to determine how much influence Levison has over King, if any; however, Mobile has no active source who could furnish us with this information if it did exist and requested authority be granted to contact [redacted]

[redacted] we have no assurance that he would not capitalize upon the FBI's confidence in him by disclosing such contact with King or other Negro leaders. This would undoubtedly cause embarrassment and for that reason no further consideration is being given to developing [redacted] or any other individual concerning this matter. (C)

70 50 2 32 11 22

JOC:fr  
(4)

MAILED 20

JUL 21 1959

COMM-FBI

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐~~SECRET~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP CLASS  
DATE 1/2/81

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED  
BY DEPARTMENT CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE (CRR)  
DATE JUL 2-13-83

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-429326)

DATE: 7/9/59

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC, Mobile (100-1483)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-1 GSK/NE 12/3/82  
REASON FOR EXT. 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 12/3/90

SUBJECT:

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
IS - CCLASS. BY 362 VRT/ang  
DECLASS ON 11-9-82

Re Bureau letter dated 6/5/59, Mobile letter dated 5/22/59, Louisville letter to Mobile dated 6/22/59, and Memphis letter to Mobile dated 6/22/59.

Referenced Louisville communication and Memphis communication reflect handling of investigation requested in referenced Mobile letter (record and indices checks), and reflect no additional information concerning [redacted]

[redacted] voluntarily stated that he thought that [redacted] would be more likely than [redacted] to understand the proper and legitimate interest of the Bureau in certain aspects of the racial situation in this area, and in the potential the situation offers to subversive elements, it is believed that [redacted] can be contacted tactfully and discreetly without incurring any substantial risk of embarrassment to the Bureau. The advantages of such a source of information concerning the subject matter captioned in this letter as well as in the matter captioned Racial Situation, Montgomery, Alabama, are obvious, and very considerable. Accordingly, it is my recommendation that [redacted] be contacted. The Bureau's authority for this action is requested. (C)

It would appear desirable in the initial approach to [redacted] to explain to him the Bureau's jurisdiction and interest in individuals and groups who advocate force and violence in violation of Federal law. Through this approach the conversation can be directed to the Klan, which in recent months has

2 - Bureau (RM) (AM)  
2 - Mobile  
WED-egp  
(4)

REC-92/100-429326-10

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

12 JUL 10 1959

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MO 100-1483

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

been harassing and intimidating Negroes by shooting marbles at them with slingshots and severely beating Negroes who attempted to fish in a lake located in a public park near Selma, Ala. Undoubtedly [ ] will have strong feelings against these tactics being used by the Klan against Negroes and may readily volunteer to furnish specific information, coming to his attention of this nature, promptly to the Bureau. (C)

[ ] should respond to this approach and should, because of his position, be able to furnish valuable information. Once [ ] has acquired a sufficient degree of confidence and trust in the contacting Agent, the conversation could then be enlarged to include such matters as subversive associations of Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING and plans of MIA regarding school integration at Montgomery. (C)

The Bureau's observations to this approach are solicited. (C) (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-429326)

DATE: 7/15/59

FROM : *RBM* SAC, MOBILE (100-1483)SUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Re Mobile letter, 7/9/59, and Cleveland letter, 7/1/59.

*EM*

In re Mobile letter, mention of re Cleveland letter was inadvertently omitted. It is noted that re Cleveland letter contains some additional details of background data concerning [redacted], but no unfavorable data not previously set forth in Mobile letter, 5/22/59, to Bureau. Cleveland letter contains no information which in any way alters Mobile recommendations stated in re Mobile letter, 7/9/59. Those recommendations still stand and the Bureau's authority to contact [redacted] is awaited, as well as the Bureau's views on the proposed manner of initial contact as set forth in re Mobile letter.

2-Bureau (REGISTERED)  
1-Mobile  
WED-ep  
(3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/4/80 BY SP-16SK/na

*2*

EX - 124

REC-91

100-429326-11

25 JUL 20 1959

FBI

JUL 21 4 33 PM '59

TELETYPE

INT. SEC.  
*[Signature]*67 JUL 22 1959  
*1421*

## Negroes Urged To Avoid School Tilts in Alabama

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Sept. 3 (AP).—Schools reopened in Montgomery today with Negro leaders advising their people to make no attempt to enroll in white classrooms at this time.

The Executive Committee of the Montgomery Improvement Association has taken the first step toward an integration fight, but said no planned effort to enter white schools would be made now.

A formal request to the city-county school board to announce an integration plan was made public last week. It mentioned the possibility of a court suit as a "last resort."

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said the Negro organization of which he is president wants to give the school board a chance to make a voluntary step toward desegregation before any further action is taken.

But he made it clear that a court suit is coming unless school authorities make a

start toward integration within reasonable time.

School officials have made no comment on the request.

Dr. King's group also asked for a conference with the Board of Education before the schools reopened, but Supt. Walter McKeel notified him the board will not meet until September 24.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*McGuire*  
*Kelly*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/3/80 BY SP-1GSK/nk

6-51

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star ET \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 9-3-59 \_\_\_\_\_

REC-31

100-429326-A  
NOT RECORDED  
149 SEP 17 1959

50 SEP 21 1959

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-135-61)

2/9/60

SAC, MOBILE (44-439)

RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
RACIAL MATTERS

Re MOlet to Bureau 12/3/59.

Enclosed to Bureau and Atlanta are one copy each of clipping from Montgomery Advertiser, daily at Montgomery, Alabama, page 3A, dated 2/2/60, captioned "Additional Boycotts Asked in King's Farewell Address." The article is written by JOHN COOMBES. Despite the headline, there is no specific data in this article about boycotts or any other specific pertinent information, other than the data that Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. is moving to Atlanta, Georgia, on Tuesday, February 2, 1960, and that Rev. RALPH D. ABERNATHY has become President of the Montgomery Improvement Association. The article states also that Rev. KING, JR. will share the pastorate of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta with his father, Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, SR.

For the information of Atlanta, no investigation has been conducted concerning Rev. KING, JR. From time to time, informants in other matters have furnished information relating to Rev. KING, JR., and a case was opened at one time captioned "Communist Infiltration of the Montgomery Improvement Association, IS - C", when some information appeared indicating the possibility of influence on Rev. KING, JR. on the part of certain subversive suspects. A review will be made of Mobile file and all pertinent material furnished to Atlanta.

- ② - Bureau (Encl. 1) (RM)
  - 2 - Atlanta (Encl. 1) (RM)
  - 2 - Mobile (44-439) (100-1472)
- WED-iwd  
(6)

100-429326-  
NOT RECORDED  
78 MAR 7 1960

ENCLOSURE

58 MAR 8 1960 102

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/3/80 BY SP-1GSK/NK

ORIGINAL FILED IN 157-2-61-31



# Additional Boycotts Asked In King's Farewell Address

By JOHN COOMBES

The Rev. Martin Luther King bowed out of his Montgomery ministry and the leadership of the integration movement here Monday night urging his people to institute more boycotts in the city and offering to return and help enforce them.

At a mass meeting in the First Baptist Church on Ripley Street, King ceded the presidency of the Montgomery Improvement Assn. to the integrationist movement which he founded in 1955, to the Rev. Ralph D. Abernethy, pastor of the First Baptist Church.

King had earlier announced his resignation from the pastorate of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church which he assumed in 1954.

He leaves the city Tuesday for Atlanta where he will become joint pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church with his father.

## MORE BOYCOTTS URGED

He told his overflow audience at his final meeting in Montgomery that he thought more boycotts were needed. "And if necessary I will come back from Atlanta and help you carry them out," he said.

But he warned his audience against doing anything that would "humiliate or defeat the white man." He especially warned against violence. "We cannot hope to attain first class citizenship by using second class methods," he said.

King's speech came at the end of a marathon program entitled "A Testimonial Of Love And Loyalty."

## RECONCILIATION PATH

His first act was to divide a substantial "love offering," taken up at the meeting, between the Montgomery Improvement Assn. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. The offering, a large wooden box crammed with bills and coins, had earlier been presented to King and his wife as a parting gift.

King said he believed the most recent segregationists could be transformed into integrationists if the Negro people continued to resist segregation.

"But we must follow a path of reconciliation. We must never do anything to humiliate or defeat the white man," he said.

King cautioned against expecting too much from his successor and the newly elected officers of the MIA. He said he had come upon the Montgomery scene when the time was ripe for action and it was the time and the circumstances which had made him leader of the integration movement here.

In his inaugural speech Abernethy warned against comparing him to King and expecting him to play the same role that King had filled.

He said he would lead a dynamic crusade to increase and improve human relations in the city. He also said the MIA would embark on a vigorous drive to increase its membership.

The MIA would set up a legal defense service so that the poor people could have protection against abusive policemen and courts," he said.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/3/80 BY SP16SK/nk

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA  
DATE 2-2-60  
PAGE 3A

RE: RACIAL SITUATION  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

BUFILE: 100-135-61  
FILE: 44-439

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 6 1960	
FBI - MOBILE	

100-429326-  
ENCLOSURE

154-2-61-31  
ENCLOSURE



RE:

BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLY, ET AL.  
(U.S.D.C., D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)  
V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)  
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

Serial 12 pulled from this file under court order of  
U.S. District Judge John Lewis Smith, Jr., and sent to  
National Archives.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/4/80 BY SP-1 GSK/ra

FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATION SECTION

JUL 12 1967

TELETYPE

FBI MOBILE

133AM 7-12-67 URGENT MMA

TO DIRECTOR

FROM MOBILE 157-2290

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/3/80 BY SP-1 GSK/NE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Wick	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

DEMONSTRATION BY MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION,  
JULY ELEVEN, SIXTYSEVEN. MONTGOMERY, ALA.

OFFICER D.H. HALL, JAILER, MONTGOMERY, ALA., CITY JAIL,  
ADVISED THAT AS OF NINE TWENTY PM, JULY ELEVEN LAST, FIVE  
NEGRO MALES AND THREE NEGRO FEMALES ARRANGING IN AGE EIGHTEEN  
TO TWENTYEIGHT YRS WERE ARRESTED AT GOODE AND COLUMBIA STS.,  
MONTGOMERY, ALA., ON CHARGE OF FAILING TO OBEY AN OFFICER, PLACED  
UNDER THREE HUNDRED DOLLAR BOND. GROUP ARRESTED WHEN THEY  
ATTEMPTED TO STAGE AN UNSCHEDULED MARCH JULY ELEVEN LAST.  
AND WERE ADVISED BY MAJOR D.H. LACKEY, THE ARRESTING OFFICER  
THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO MARCH, GROUP CONSISTED OF  
THIRTYFIVE TO FIFTY NEGRO TEENAGERS AND ONLY THE ADULTS WERE  
ARRESTED. GROUP LED BY REV. RICHARD C. BOONE, AGE TWENTYEIGHT,  
OTHERS ARRESTED WERE DAVID LEE HUNTER, TWENTYONE YRS., JIMMY BOONE,  
TWENTYTWO YRS, ROBERT LEE PITTS, NINETEEN YRS., EDWARD RUDOLPH  
TWENTYFIVE YRS., FRANCENS TOLBERT, FEMALE NINETEEN, ADELIA SMITH  
FEMALE EIGHTEEN, ROSEMARY WILLIAMS, TWENTYONE YRS.,

LHM FOLLOWS.

SI-106

11 JUL 14 1967

END

JMS

FBI WASH DC

62 JUL 19 1967

Included in ltr to W.H. 746  
7/12/67 "Selected Racial Developments"  
S. Parkis

5000  
REC'D DON WILETT